Atty Dkt. No.: REDL002 USSN: 09/645.071

In the claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for diagnosing whether a host suffers from a chronic immune disease from Chronic Fatigue Syndrome (CFS), said method comprising:

assaying a sample from said host for the presence of at least one low molecular weight RNase L fragment having a molecular weight of from about 35 to about 45 kDai and caspase activity; and

if said at least one low molecular weight RNaseL fragment is present, determining that said host suffers from <u>CFS</u> a chronic immune disease.

- 2. (Cancelled)
- (Original) The method according to Claim 1, wherein said sample is a blood cell derived sample.
- 4. (Original) The method according to Claim 1, wherein said sample is a PBMC derived sample.
- 5. (Cancelled)
- 6. (Currently Amended) A method of diagnosing chronic immune disease Chronic Fatigue Syndrome (CFS) activity in a human subject, said method comprising:
 - (a) obtaining a sample from said subject;
 - (b) assaying said sample for:
- (i) the presence of at least one RNase L fragment having a molecular weight of from about 35 to about 45 kDal; and
 - (ii) caspase activity

if said at least one low molecular weight RNaseL fragment or caspase activity is present, diagnosing chronic immune disease CFS activity in said subject.

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- 7. (Cancelled)
- 8. (Original) The method according to Claim 6, wherein said sample is a blood derived sample.
- 9. (Original) The method according to Claim 8, wherein said blood derived sample is derived from PBMCs.
- 10. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 6, wherein said method is a method of confirming whether said subject suffers from <u>CFS</u> said chronic immune disease.

Claims 11 to 25. (Cancelled)